

MODEL III

# BASIC COURSE

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**Radio Shack**

TRS-80

SOFTWARE

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## Important Note to Model III Users

From time to time, Radio Shack may release new versions of TRSDOS, the TRS-80 disk operating system. Check with your local Radio Shack or the *TRS-80 Microcomputer News* for notices and instructions on these enhanced versions of TRSDOS.

If you receive a new version of TRSDOS, read the following before making any modifications to your existing software packages (applications, languages, or system utilities):

- Do not convert your Radio Shack software packages for use with the new version of TRSDOS unless you are instructed to do so.
- Before converting a Radio Shack supplied Model I software package to a Model III format, check to see if Radio Shack provides a Model III version of the package. If so, you should obtain a copy of that version.
- If you're using several different software packages, press the RESET button whenever you change software.

Thank-You!

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# BASIC Course

**Radio Shack®**



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10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

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### Introduction

The BASIC Course consists of two Model III diskettes which contain a beginning course in Model III BASIC. The course is designed for a Model III Computer with a minimum of 32K and two disk drives. This course does not assume any previous experience with BASIC.

The lessons are designed so that you will be able to write simple programs within a matter of minutes. By using the BASIC Course and your Operation and BASIC Language Reference Manual, you should be able to write programs in BASIC. This BASIC Course is intended as a primary aid in learning BASIC.

The computer offers a unique advantage as an educational tool. Each lesson is self-pacing, interactive, and dynamic. It is not like reading a book; you literally talk back to the computer as you learn. You can progress as fast or as slow as you wish. Graphics, animation, and readability make this approach to learning BASIC fun.

During each lesson, there are quick tests to help you gauge your progress. Unlike written tests, the computer will explain why a particular answer is wrong. At the end of each lesson, and before each test, the program will ask if you wish to repeat the last lesson.

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## The Lessons

The BASIC Course consists of eight Lessons and an Introduction. The Introduction explains how to load and use each Lesson. Some Lessons are made up of smaller sub-segments, such as LESSON1, L1P2 (Part 2 of Lesson 1), L1P3 (Part 3 of Lesson 1), L1P4 (Part 4 of Lesson 1).

Each Lesson or sub-segment may be studied or reviewed at any time. Once the first part of a Lesson (e.g. LESSON1) is loaded into the computer, it will automatically load the rest of the Lesson (L1P2, L1P3, L1P4, etc.) as needed. To stop a Lesson, or go to a sub-segment, press the **BREAK** key. When **READY>** appears, type **R U N [ ] [ ]** and the name of the desired Lesson or segment. You must press **ENTER** after responding to questions that appear on the screen.

## Lesson 1

Lesson 1 (Beginning BASIC) is essentially your introduction to the world of computers. It explains the way BASIC works, the use of line numbers, and how BASIC programs are structured. Loading instructions and their contents are as follows:

---

**R U N [ ] [ ] L E S S O N 1 [ ] ENTER**

Introduction  
LIST  
PRINT  
RUN

Line Numbers  
Variables  
NEW

INPUT  
Line Editing  
Disk Storage

---

**R U N [ ] [ ] L 1 P 2 [ ] ENTER**

PRINT Spacing  
Expressions  
PRINT TAB

PRINT@  
Hierarchy  
Strings

END  
LET

---

**R U N [ ] [ ] L 1 P 3 [ ] ENTER**

IF/THEN  
READ/DATA  
FOR/NEXT

Operator Meanings  
Arrays  
Looping

GOTO  
DIM



## Lessons (continued)

---

**R U N** **" L 1 P 4 "** **ENTER**

ABS  
GOSUB/RETURN  
RESTORE

INT  
ON...GOSUB

RND  
ON...GOTO

Graphics Statements:

SET

RESET

POINT

### Lesson 2

Lesson 2 shows you how to make changes to programs, using the Editing functions and the Editing commands. Lesson 2 also covers shortcuts in Editing that let you make changes quickly and easily.

---

**R U N** **" L E S S O N 2 "** **ENTER**

Using Edit  
SPACE BAR  
SHIFT UP ARROW  
**H** ack  
**C** hange  
**Q** (quit and exit)

LIST  
**D** elete  
CURSOR MOTION  
**X** (end of line)  
**L** ist edited line  
**E** (save and exit)

EDIT  
**I** nsert  
**S** earch  
**K** ill  
**A** (cancel)

### Lesson 3

Lesson 3 covers the different types of variables and variable names allowed in BASIC. The lesson explains in detail how to use the most efficient type of variable for any application. Lesson 3 also examines the use of arrays to hold large quantities of related information.

---

**R U N** **" L E S S O N 3 "** **ENTER**

Integer  
Double Precision  
Arrays

Single Precision  
Strings  
DIM

Exponential Form  
Type Declaration

## Lesson 4

Lesson 4 details the use of BASIC Operators and Commands. The operators (arithmetic and logical) are explained in full and their uses. The BASIC Commands are listed and explained.

---

```
R U N " L E S S O N 4 " ENTER
```

### Operators

#### Arithmetic Operators:

Addition  
Division

Subtraction  
Exponentiation

Multiplication  
Grouping

#### Relational Operators:

Less Than  
Less Than or Equal

Greater Than  
Greater Than or Equal

Equal to  
Not Equal to

#### Logical Operators:

True Expression  
OR

False Expression  
NOT

AND

#### String Operators:

+ (Plus)  
Equal to  
Greater Than or Equal

Less Than  
Less Than or Equal

Greater Than  
Not Equal to

### Operator Hierarchy

### Commands

AUTO  
CLOAD?  
CONT  
TRON/TROFF

CLEAR  
CLOAD  
RUN

CSAVE  
STOP  
SYSTEM

### Lesson 5

Lesson 5 explains how to enter and store data, and retrieve it. Saving data on tape for later use is covered in detail.

---

**R U N " L E S S O N 5 " ENTER**

Input/Output (I/O) Statements

INPUT#	INKEY\$
READ	PRINT
PRINT USING	LPRINT
PRINT#	OUT

! and % Field Specifiers

INPUT

INP  
PRINT@  
LPRINT USING  
# Field Specifier

---

**R U N " L 5 P 2 " ENTER**

Input/Output (Cont.)

LLIST	LPRINT
INPUT#	Cassette Data Files
INKEY\$	INP

LPRINT USING  
PRINT#  
OUT

### Lesson 6

Lesson 6 explains how to manipulate text strings and use them for comparisons and logical operations.

---

**R U N " L E S S O N 6 " ENTER**

String Functions:

ASC	CHR\$	FRE
LEN	LEFT\$	MID\$
RIGHT\$	STR\$	STRING\$
VAL		

String Operations:

ASCII Codes	ASCII Function	CHR\$ Function
Relational Operators	LEFT\$ Function	MID\$ Function
RIGHT\$ Function	LEN Function	VAL Function
STR\$ Function	FRE Function	

## Lesson 7

Lesson 7 details the special features of Model III BASIC and how to use these features.

---

```
R U N " L E S S O N 7 " ENTER
```

? (PRINT)

NEXT

ON ERROR GOTO

ERR Function

' (REM)

Ending Quotes

RESUME

ERL Function

Compact Line

IF...THEN...ELSE

ERROR Statement

---

```
R U N " L 7 P 2 " ENTER
```

Special Character Set

Special Options

## Lesson 8

Finally, Lesson 8 completes the course with a section on machine language subprograms that are called from a BASIC program.

---

```
R U N " L E S S O N 8 " ENTER
```

Machine Language

POKE

SYSTEM Command

USR Function

PEEK

VARPTR Function

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### Loading the Lessons

It is assumed you have reviewed the general operational procedures for your equipment as explained in the Disk System Owner's Manual and are now aware of how to power on your computer, load the Disk Operating System, etc.

Before you use the BASIC Course, it is strongly recommended that you make a Backup copy of each diskette included in this course. If you are not familiar with Backup and Format functions, please refer to page 11.

1. Turn on the system. If you are not familiar with the Model III System, please refer to your Disk System Owner's Manual for System Start Up (Power Up Sequence).
2. Insert the BASIC Course Backup diskette in Drive 0 (the bottom built-in drive, nearest the keyboard). Insert the Drive 1 diskette in Drive 1 (top drive).
3. Press the orange Reset button (in the upper-right corner of the keyboard), and go to the TRSDOS mode.
4. Type: **B A S I C** and press **ENTER**.

5. The screen will show:

You type:

How Many Files?

Press **ENTER**

Memory Size?

Press **ENTER**

6. The screen will display the BASIC version number, the amount of memory left (Free Bytes), and number of files allocated. The last line on the screen shows: **READY > \_**.

You type: **R U N " I N T R O "** and press **ENTER**.

The Introduction has detailed instructions on using the program and loading the lessons.

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## Backup Instructions

A Backup consists of two processes:

1. Format (or prepare) a blank diskette for information storage. (You can also re-use an old disk.) The Format process is done automatically if needed when you make a Backup.
2. Backup (or copy) all the information from the original diskette to the new formatted disk.

Here is the step-by-step Backup procedure: (If the computer is on, and at TRSDOS Ready, you may skip steps 1, 4, and 5.)

1. Turn on the Model III computer (the power switch is located about 3 inches from the front, on the right side of the computer, underneath the edge). The bottom diskette drive light will flash briefly. The screen will stay dark. This is normal.
2. Insert the original Program diskette (to be copied) in Drive 0 (the bottom diskette drive, nearest the keyboard). Insert the diskette with the label up. The small square notch in the diskette will be to your left. Close the diskette drive door firmly.
3. Insert the blank diskette (or a diskette you wish to re-use) in Drive 1 (the upper drive), and close the drive door.
4. Press the orange Reset button (in the upper-right corner of the keyboard).
5. The screen will show: Enter Date (MM/DD/YY)?

Type today's date and press **ENTER**. (January 9, 1981 =  
01/09/81)

The screen will show: Enter Time (HH:MM:SS)?

Press **ENTER**. TRSDOS Ready will appear with a line of dots.

6. Type: **B A C K U P** : **0** : **1** and press **ENTER**.

7. The screen will show: SOURCE Disk Master Password?.

Type: **P A S S W O R D** and press **ENTER**.



## Backup Instructions (continued)

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If you are re-using an old diskette, one or two additional questions may appear, depending on the previous contents of the diskette. You may see:

Diskette contains DATA. Use Disk or not?

or:

Do you wish to RE-FORMAT the diskette?

If the questions appear, type **[Y]** and press **[ENTER]** for each question.

The computer will format the diskette (in Drive 1), read data from the program diskette (in Drive 0), then transfer the data to the copy diskette (in Drive 1).

8. When the Backup is done, you'll see: \* \* Backup Complete \* \*. You will return to TRSDOS Ready. The diskette in Drive 1 is now identical to the program diskette in Drive 0.
9. Remove the original program diskette and insert the new copy in Drive 0. Store the original program diskette in a safe place. Write the program name on the copy, using a felt-tip pen.

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NOTE: Good data processing procedure dictates that the user test the program, run and test sample sets of data, and run the system in parallel with the system previously in use for a period of time adequate to insure that results of operation of the computer or program are satisfactory.

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Radio Shack

TRS-80

MODEL III  
MICRO  
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Cat. No. 26-2010

## Basic Course

Drive 0

TRSDOS™ OPERATING SYSTEM  
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Drive 1


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